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REMARKS

Claims 1, 14, 16, 18, 20 and 22-26 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 14, 16, 25 and 26 were rejected by the Examiner in an Office Action dated October 31, 2005. Claims 1, 14, 18 and 20 have been amended, and Claims 17 and 19 have been cancelled, herewith. Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection – 35 USC § 102:

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 14, 16, 25 and 26 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Dang (US 5,362,192). Applicants traverse such rejection as follows.

With respect to Claims 1 and 14, such claims have been amended to include all features of allowable Claims 17 and 19, respectively, and thus Claims 1 and 14 are now allowable for reasons given below with respect to the claim objection of Claims 17-20.

As to Claims 16 and 26, these claims depend upon amended Claim 14, and Applicants traverse the rejection of such claims for reasons given herewith with respect to Claim 14.

As to Claim 25, such claim depends upon amended Claim 1, and Applicants traverse the rejection of such claim for reasons given herewith with respect to Claim 1.

Therefore, the rejection of Claims 1, 14, 16, 25 and 26 under 35 USC 102(b) has been overcome.

Claim Objection

The Examiner objected to Claims 17-20 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, Applicants have amended Claims 1 and 14 accordingly, to include all features of allowable Claims 17 and 19, respectively. Therefore, amended Claim 1 is in independent form and includes all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims with respect

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to allowable Claim 17, and amended Claim 14 is in independent form and includes all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims with respect to allowable Claim 19. Claims 18 and 20 have been amended to depend upon amended Claims 1 and 14, respectively, and thus are similarly allowable at least for reasons given above with respect to amended Claims 1 and 14.

Therefore, the objection of Claims 17-20 has been overcome.

Claim Allowance

Applicants graciously acknowledge the allowance of Claims 22-24.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are allowable in view of the cited references. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if it is believed such contact would be useful in placing this case in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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